BULLETIN OF THE
LOS ANGELES MUSEUM
of History, Science and Art
Department of Fine and Applied Arts

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"Temptation"
by
IVAN MESTROVIC

CHINESE PORCELAINS

The collection of Chinese porcelains loaned to the Museum by Mr. A. Burlingame Johnson has been installed in one of the rooms in the new wing. This room, which opens from the new Harrison Gallery, affords additional exhibition space and has enabled Mr. Johnson to add a number of fine bronzes for which there has not heretofore been room. Since the withdrawal of the Hippisley Collection from the Smithsonian Institution and its shipment to London, and the sale of the Morgan Collection, there are few general collections on exhibit in America and probably none of greater extent than this one which Mr. Johnson assembled about twenty-five years ago, during an official sojourn in China. Embracing as it does excellent examples of the porcelain of the Sung, Ming, Kang-he, Yung-Ching, and modern periods, the collection provides a retrospective exhibition of the art of porcelain making in China from about A.D. 960 until the present century. The evolution of the art, both as regards the glazes, the decoration, and the form of the pieces may be studied through examples comprised in this collection. A number are pieces which were made for and used by the Imperial families and thus represent some of the finest products of each period.

Among the specimens of the Sung period is a dish of pale green celedon with scrolls engraved in the paste under the glaze. In the centre of the dish on the face is an engraved mark of the dynasty. There is an incense burner of brown celedon, with teakwood base and cover having a block of coral as knob. This was a part of Viceroy Tien's collection and is one of the half dozen such pieces in existence. The glaze is very smooth and deep, the surface covered by a fine fish roe crackle. When placed in the sun's rays, or even in a strong shaded light, colors of brilliant purple, red and green appear and disappear on the crackled surface as one changes the position of the piece. Such pieces were first made about 1111 to 1125. They do not appear in later periods.

Of pieces belonging to the Ming period there is a large Kien-Tse ivory white vase which is a perfect example of the blanc de chine porcelain which does not appear in later periods. Of the late Ming period there is a pair of temple vases of sang de boeuf glaze and a rare triple gourd vase, twenty-five inches in height, whose decoration is especially worthy of note. The entire surface of the vase is covered with pictures of Chinese, each character complete and possessing a personality differing from all others. There are one hundred of these characters and the group is known as the I Pai Ming, following the old story that several thousand years ago all Chinese were divided into one hundred families and each given a distinct name, these becoming the only known family names for many centuries.

Of many examples of the Kang-he period a pear-shaped vase of mirror black whose surface is covered with Imperial five-clawed dragons

STATUETTE OF KWAN YIN

in gold, is a rare specimen, while the pear-shaped bottle neck vase of ruby red celedon, eighteen inches in height, is one of the finest ruby vases extant. Among the polychromes of this period an inverted pear-shaped vase has been regarded by connoisseurs as one of the most beautiful examples in existence. Of the same period is a pair of lions, one with the brocaded ball, the other with its cub. The bodies are in pale blue and green while bangles of pearl and jade ornaments are suspended from collars on their necks. The top of the head and shoulders are red. The bases upon which the lions are mounted are rectangular in shape and beautifully decorated. Among the Imperial pieces from this period is a vase with five-clawed dragons painted all over the surface of the piece in blue, purple, brown, green and black over a clear white glaze. This vase is from the collection by the Emperor Kank-he to Viceroy Tien of Chin Chieu in 1670.

One of the most valuable as well as delightful among the examples of this period is the statuette of Kwan-Yin with a spotted deer by her side, which is reproduced in this issue of the bulletin. It is an example of the best of the five-coloured productions of the Kang-he period. It is seldom that a Chinese statue of a woman possesses as natural or beautiful features as here portrayed. The draping of the costume is the work of a master sculptor and the pose is faultless. Larger, and even more lovely in the faultless and unrelieved whiteness of its glaze is another statue of Kwan-Yin which has been given a place of honor in the room. The delicacy of the pose and the arrangement of the drapery, combined with the almost translucent quality of the glaze, which seems to flow and bathe the figure in a white radiance, makes the statue a thing of exquisite beauty; surely one of the masterly productions of the Kang-he period to which it belongs.

One of the oldest forms of ancient bronzes is well shown in a sacrificial wine vase of the Shang Dynasty, (B.C. 1766-1122), while a bronze brazier on a carved teak wood stand dates back to eight hundred years B. C. There are several excellent examples of the bronzes made during the Han Dynasty.

In cases on the walls are hung embroideries on silk; there are also replicas of a Ming Emperor's and Empress' robes as worn three hundred years ago. It is interesting to note that the late Empress Dowager's robes were almost identical with the robe of this Ming Empress, except that the color scheme was yellow, whereas in the older robe blue predominates. Over the Emperor's robe has been thrown the amber necklace with seal which was given to Mr Johnson as a decoration in recognition of his services at the time of the Boxer Insurrection.

An illustrated handbook, giving in a concise form general facts regarding old Chinese porcelains has been prepared by Mr. Johnson and may be procured at the Museum by those interested in studying the various pieces in the collection.

KENNETH HAYES MILLER

Kenneth Hayes Miller's painting "Interior" is illustrated here. It is one of the canvases presented to the Museum by Mr. and Mrs. William Preston Harrison at the opening of the new Harrison Gallery last fall. Mr. Miller is a member of the Painter Gravers, Modern Artists of America and the League of American Artists. He has been an instructor at the Art Student's League, New York, since 1911. Mr. Miller exhibited in San Francisco, 1915; Luxembourg Galleries, Paris, 1919; the Carnegie International Exhibition, 1924 and 1925; the Pan-American Exhibition, Los Angeles, 1925. Mr. Miller served on the jury for the Carnegie Exhibition, 1925; he was also a member of the New York Jury for our Pan-American Exhibition.

SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL PRINT MAKERS EXHIBITION

The Seventh International Print Makers Exhibition opened on March second continuing through April fourth. Four hundred and fifty-one prints were hung in the main gallery of the Museum and in the three new Print Rooms. This important exhibition is assembled each year by the Print Makers Society of California. The officers are,— President, Benjamin C. Brown; Secretary, Howell C. Brown; Treasurer, Frances H. Gearhart. The jury of selection was composed of,— Benjamin C. Brown, Howell C. Brown, Frances H. Gearhart, Florence Ames. The awards were given as follows:—

The Los Angeles Gold Medal, offered by the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, was awarded to A. Rigdon Read for "CARCASSONNE."

"Interior"
by
KENNETH HAYES MILLER

Presented by Mr. and Mrs. William Preston Harrison
for the Harrison Gallery, Los Angeles Museum

"Interior" is painted in a simple straightforward way, with a very restricted palette, almost a monotone. It shows a fine spirit of tenderness and sincerity. A most distinguished picture.

Huntington Prize, provided for by the late Mrs. Henry E. Huntington, went to Sidney Tushingham for "GATEWAY—HAMPTON COURT."

The Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Alanson Bryan Prize to John Taylor Arms for "FROM THE PONTE VECCHIO."

The Storrow Prize, provided by Mrs. Samuel Storrow, went to Gustave Bauman,— "SUMMER CLOUD."

The Mr. C. Willem Buma Prize for best landscape was awarded to E. G. Earthrowl,—"BATHING HUTS ON L'AUTHIE"; for the best figure to Ethel Gabain for "UN MONSIEUR."

Silver Medal offered by the Print Makers Society of California was given to Ernest D. Roth for "PONTE DEL PARADISO."

The Bronze Medal offered by the Print Makers Society went to Ernest W. Watson for "MISTY MORNING."

The Jury of Awards was composed of,— Frances H. Gearhart, Nelbert Chouinard, Roi Partridge, H. L. Doolittle, John C. Austin, Chairman of Art Committee, Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.

All prints by officers of the Print Makers Society, members of the juries of selection and awards, were not in competition for the above prizes.

EXHIBITION BY JOHN RICH

During March, John Rich held a one man exhibition of his work, showing several portraits, among them "AUGUSTINA" which took the Wm. Preston Harrison prize in 1922. Mr. Rich's work is well known at the Muesum by his canvases shown at the annual exhibits, but it is the first time, at least for a number of years, we have had an opportunity of seeing a group of his paintings together.

Especially strong and interesting were the pictures of "WO HOY IN AMERICAN CLOTHES" and "MY FLEND." The distinguished portrait of Bishop Frederick R. Graves one feels must be an excellent likeness.

NINTH INTERNATIONAL SALON OF PHOTOGRAPHY

The Ninth International Salon of Photography under the auspices of the Camera Pictorialists of Los Angeles, was held during the month of January. This society is affiliated with the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain and has associate members all over the world. The Jury of Selection was composed of Louis Fleckenstein, Ray Winters, Phil Townsend Hanna, Ernest Williams, C. J. Marvin. Four hundred and seven prints were hung.

PAINTERS AND SCULPTORS CLUB

Also through March the Painters and Sculptors Club held an exhibition of their work. Forty one paintings and nine pieces of sculpture were accepted by the Jury of Selection. Three medals in memory of Minnie Tingle were given by Mr. F. C. Tingle. The gold medal was awarded to Ralph Holmes for "SUNLIT HILLS." The silver medal to John Frost for "PINES AMONG THE DUNES." The bronze medal to Edgar Payne for "RED SAILS."

THE MODERN ART WORKERS

The third small gallery was hung during March with paintings by the Modern Art Workers; there were also shown two pieces of sculpture. The Modern Art Workers is a new organization, this being only their second exhibition. Most of the work is more or less unconventional, but it shows a fresh outlook and is courageous and invigorating.

PACIFIC ARTS ASSOCIATION

One of the very interesting exhibitions of the year was held last month under the auspices of the Pacific Arts Association. It comprised the art work of the schools, ranging from the primary grades up through the college and art schools. Much of the work was strong and vital, and as these students are our future artists and connoisseurs, it certainly speaks for an appreciative public and for independent workers. The exhibition opened with a three days' convention of the association. Prof. Arthur Bridgman Clark of Stanford is the President.

SCHEDULE OF EXHIBITIONS

April 9th to May 24th	Sculpture and drawings by Ivan Mestrovic. and an exhibition by Painters and Sculptors of Southern California. New Mexico Painters Exhibition. First Exhibition of Paintings by American Bird Artists Assembled by the Cooper Ornithological Club.
May	Exhibition of British Prints. Exhibition of Hungarian Prints. International Bookplate Exhibition.
May 25th to June 15th	Exhibition of Architectural Drawings.
June 15th to July 12th	Exhibition by Students of Otis Art Institute.
June	Paintings and Wood Carvings by Warren Wheelock Small Sculpture by Arnold Röunebeck. Etchings by Frank Geritz Masks by Florence Brown Travel Sketches by F. W. Vreeland Drawings by Loren Barton

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The Los Angeles Museum of History, Science and Art

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and

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HOURS

The Museum is open daily from 10:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M., except Wednesday afternoons. Open Sunday 2:00 P. M. to 5:00 P. M. Admission free.